



Five Ways Your Municipality Benefits Because You Are a Certified (or Master) Municipal Clerk

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1. Your Knowledge is Current and Relevant

As city leaders, municipal clerks are expected to be knowledgeable about the most up-to-date legislative directives affecting many different moving parts of local government. Municipal clerks also need to have expertise in election laws and government transparency. The International Institute for Municipal Clerks and the Institute's that deliver the education are dedicated to providing current information that municipal clerks need to know to serve citizens well. The certification programs cover information related to the topics mentioned above and others such as: ethics in municipal government, public funds investment, effective communication, leadership principles, etc.

2. You are Likely More Productive

Studies have shown that employees with a professional certification are more productive.¹ Certification programs prepare workers for what they may face day-to-day on the job and gives them the necessary tools to accomplish their work goals and overcome challenges. In fact, having one certified employee on a team can boost the productivity of a whole team.¹

3. Best Practices Elsewhere Can Be Effectively Used in Your Municipality

Part of the knowledge gained through certification programs includes access to a network of city leaders who are willing to share what works well in their own cities. Through these connections municipal clerks involved in IIMC and their state associations have colleagues around their state and world that they can call on when they are attempting a new program or initiative in their city or when they want to tweak how something is done. Who better to ask

than clerks who have demonstrated a high professional standard that is necessary to achieve the Certified Municipal Clerk or Master Municipal Clerk designation?

4. Information Can Be Shared With the Entire Municipality

Attendees of the IIMC Annual Conference at trainings that take place locally through the Institutes take the information they learned back to their municipalities and provide training to the others in their offices through written memos, mini-training sessions, updates to key staff, or debriefings with relevant staff. Talk about "return on investment." The conference registration fee is in reality divided among all the staff in a municipality who directly benefit from the material presented at our in-person seminars.

5. You Demonstrate a Commitment to Your Profession

When you choose to pursue the CMC or MMC you are committing to extensive education beyond your day-to-day responsibilities in the office.

This type of dedication requires a learning the basics of a job, a certified clerk can focus on continuous improvement and innovation. This commitment results in fewer mistakes and a professional with greater confidence to perform their tasks.

¹ Halif, Robert (2014). 4 Reasons a Professional Certification Benefits the Entire Company. <http://ixzz5DnVEV4h0>. Accessed April 26, 2018.